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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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South Korea: The withdrawal of Ho Chong, a leading opposition candidate, from the 15 October presidential elections, virtually turns the campaign into a two-man race between junta leader Pak Chong-hui and former President Yun Po-son.

Yun has attracted increasing public attention by his hard-hitting attacks on Pak and the regime. He has publicized corruption in the military government and raised the subject of Pak's Communist background. Ho's campaign had been severely handicapped by lack of funds and poor organization.

The regime has been counting on the civilian politicians' lack of unity to divide the opposition vote and thus avoid the need for blatant rigging of the elections to assure Pak's election. Ho's withdrawal is likely to generate increasing pressure on Pak by hardcore members of the regime to resort to harsh repressive tactics.

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*Venezuela: President Betancourt's crackdown on the left has not entirely met the demands of opposition elements.

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[redacted] the military is dubious that civilian procedures are adequate to make the crackdown meaningful for any length of time. [redacted]

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[redacted] At latest count, some 150 Communists and pro-Communist activists had been arrested throughout the country.

Betancourt is also under pressure to take even more repressive measures. [redacted]

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If within the next two days the Supreme Court does not act on Betancourt's request to outlaw the Communist Party and the Movement of the Revolutionary Left, Betancourt will be obliged either to violate the Constitution by continuing to hold the leftists or run the risk of bringing the military down on him. [redacted]

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NOTES

Argentina - Communist China: Argentina is negotiating the sale of "substantial volumes" of beef and mutton to Communist China, according to Minister of Agriculture Saubidet. The Chinese are reported to be prepared to pay cash for the meat. Saubidet asserts that representatives of the incoming Illia government have been informed of the proposed sale and have endorsed it.

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